

# CORNBELT BUC-ETIN

## August 2024

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### Upcoming Events

**September 4, 2024** - Next monthly Cornbelt AMBUCS Lunch Meeting at Noon at Monicals Pizza next to Best Buy on Veterans Parkway.

**October 2024** – Next Adopt-A-Highway clean-up. Exact date and more details will be sent.



## From Your President

Hi Cornbelt AMBUCS!

I hope you are all doing well as we are nearing the end of summer. I hope you were able to get out and enjoy your summer with a vacation and some travel. With kids back in school and students at Illinois State, it feels like summer is already over, but we do still have that 3-day Labor Day to look forward to.

Our recent trip to the AMBUCS National Conference was a tremendous success, and I am excited to bring the energy and ideas we gathered back home. It was inspiring to see the dedication and creativity of our fellow members from across the country. Please read on to find more

As we transition from the relaxed pace of summer into the busier fall season, let us keep that momentum going. Whether you are helping with packing backs for students, cleaning the highway, lending a hand at a ramp build, or just sharing the AMBUCS mission with others, every bit of effort helps. Let us make sure we are there for our community as they get back into the swing of things.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting and continuing the magnificent work we've been doing. Thank you for all that you do— with shoulders together, we are making a real impact in our community and in people's lives.

Best wishes,

Bill Hamann  
President, Cornbelt AMBUCS  
[william.hamann@gmail.com](mailto:william.hamann@gmail.com)

## Recap - National Conference – July 31- August 3, 2024

The 2024 AMBUCS National Conference was held in Tulsa, OK., this year. The following members from our chapter attended; Marcia Hammerstrand, J. Balmer, Larry Turilli, Gregory & Janet Ferris, and Bill Hamann. We all had a great time meeting other AMBUCs, listening to inspirational speakers, building Amtrykes, attending the educational sessions and other events. Please think about joining us next year.



### Cornbelt Chapter National Awards

2023-2024 Honor Chapter  
2023-2024 – Amtryke 5-9 (presented)  
2023-2024 Program Giving – Scholars  
2023-2024 Program Giving – AmBility

### Cornbelt Amtryke Giveaway





Gordo (Diego) received an Amtryke that our Cornbelt chapter sponsored. He liked the bike, but not all the attention! 😊



## New National Officers

**President:** Donna Carlton-Vish, of the Danville, Emerald Coast, and Greater Indy Friends chapters

**National President-Elect:** Gordon Shaw of the Great Plains chapter

**Immediate Past National President:** Donna Hingtgen of the Charity Angel chapter

Matt Trainor, of the Augusta chapter, announced his candidacy for National President-Elect.

## 2024 National Conference Education Sessions

**Build the New Bike** - video coming soon!

### **Self-Serve Technology:**

<http://ambucs.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/AMBUCS-Tech-Presentation-2024.pdf>

### **Highway to Big Hat National Office:**

<http://ambucs.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/National-Conference-Leadership-Class-Autosaved-1.pptx>

**Scholarships:** <http://ambucs.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Scholarship-Presentation.pptx>

**Let's Learn Canva:** <http://ambucs.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Canva-For-Non-Profits-1.pdf>

**Donating as a Retiree** - Don. Smith (Lawton, OK Chapter)

Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) and Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

RMD: Once individuals reach the age of 73, they must start withdrawing a minimum amount annually from their retirement accounts (excluding Roth IRAs).

QCD: Allows IRA owners who are 70½ years or older to directly transfer up to \$100,000 per year to a qualified charity without counting the distribution as taxable income.

*Top Tip:* If you plan to donate to the Cornbelt chapter AMBUCS, your church, or another charity or service accounts using a QCD, please ask your accountant or your financial institution to make the check out to the organization, but be sure to have the check mailed to you. Many organizations have trouble determining where a donation has come from and it's so much easier if you send the check on with details.

## Save the Conference Dates

2025 National Conference – Des Moines, IA – July 23-26

2026 National Conference – Myrtle Beach, SC – August 26-29

National AMBUCS recapped the conference much better than we could, so please read the full National Conference Recap at <https://ambucs.org/2024-conference-recap/>, but only after you're done reading our newsletter!

## Adopt-a-Highway cleanup – August 10, 2024

Six of our Cornbelt AMBUCS plus one guest went out at 8 am on a beautiful summer day and cleaned up our Adopted part of the Highway. It is always a good time of helping out and catching up with other AMBUCS, while picking up garbage. If you are driving down Pipeline Road – please notice how clean the sides of the road are.



Our portion of the highway has recently been repaired/resurfaced – which might have explained the large number of cans, bottles and cups that we found. 😊



The best find of the day, however, was found by Kay Lang. A baseball, still wrapped in plastic but chewed up by a mower. Maybe we could start a Field of Dreams since we have the baseball and the corn fields.

We will clean the highway again in October. Please consider joining us. Additional details will be sent out.

## Cornbelt AMBUCS Members – Caring Corner

### **Dennis Strauss**

Denny is working hard on gaining strength and stamina. He is making progress and hopes to be back at AMBUCS events in the future. Please keep Denny in your thoughts and prayers.



## Ramp News from Bill



Hey, All you ramp-builders -

We were pretty busy this past month and built two ramps. First one was in Normal.. inside a garage.. pretty easy and we finished it in record time! We had a great crew and a big thank you to our volunteers that day! The homeowner was very happy knowing that she can continue to live in her own home for many years to come. Thanks, AMBUCS!



The second ramp we built was in Bloomington. We had about 40ft, of ramp with three large platforms, including balusters! We decided to break this project up into two days of construction and the end result was well worth it! The homeowner was pleased and told us this ramp was a "game changer" for her to be able to live independently in her home here in Bloomington. We had lots of volunteers and I sure do appreciate everyone's willingness to help us get this completed. Thanks, again, AMBUCS!

I've got several more ramps to build so I'll keep you posted on upcoming ramp-building projects. Enjoy this nice weather and I'll see ya' at the next one!

Bill

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## Amtryke® News from Al



We did not have any Amtryke activity the last month. I anticipate increased activity when schools start soon.

Cornbelt did sponsor one of the Amtrykes given away at National Conference.

As usual please let me know whenever someone could benefit from one of our therapeutic bikes.

Al Bedell

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### **Our Cornbelt AMBUCS Board**

**President:** William Hamann

**Secretary:** Marcia Hammerstrand

**Treasurer:** Dennis Strauss

**At-Large Board Member:** Bill McHie

**At-Large Board Member:** Pete Hettinger

**At-Large Board Member:** Vicky Strauss

**At-Large Board Member:** Al Bedell

**At-Large Board Member:** Rick Milner

**Website:** [www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org](http://www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/cornbeltAMBUCS](http://www.facebook.com/cornbeltAMBUCS)

### **Cornbelt Buc-etin Delivery**

We now post all our monthly newsletters on our website at [www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org](http://www.cornbeltAMBUCS.org). When the newsletter is posted, I send a link to everyone's email address so they can click on the link to take them directly to the newsletter. So, to get your link sent to you, please email Jerry your email address at [JWYrick300@ctechinternet.com](mailto:JWYrick300@ctechinternet.com).